

Application No.: 09/823,418

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Docket No.: 220002059711

REMARKS

Claims 23 and 29-39 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 23 and 32 have been amended and new claims 40 and 41 have been added without prejudice or disclaimer of any previously claimed subject matter. Support for the amendments and new claims can be found, *inter alia*, throughout the specification, for example, at page 17, line 26, to page 18, line 10, and at page 19, lines 10-17.

The amendments are made solely to promote prosecution without prejudice or disclaimer of any previously claimed subject matter. With respect to all amendments and canceled claims, Applicants have not dedicated or abandoned any unclaimed subject matter and moreover have not acquiesced to any rejections and/or objections made by the Patent Office. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue prosecution of any presently excluded subject matter or claim embodiments in one or more future continuation and/or divisional application(s).

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment does not raise new issues and respectfully request entry of this amendment.

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CONCLUSION


If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would serve to facilitate resolution of any outstanding issues, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number below.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **220002059711**.

Dated: November 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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